

~~Old Judge Semmes Home~~
(Now The Zimlich Place)
Dauphin Way, $\frac{1}{2}$ Mile West of
Mobile Street
Mobile, Alabama

HABS No. ALA-57

HABS
ALA,
49-MOBI,
57-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORIC AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
DISTRICT NO. 16

Historic American Buildings Survey
E. Walter Burkhardt, District Officer
Auburn, Alabama

HABS
ALA,
49-MOBI,
57-

OLD SEMMES PLACE (Now ZIMLICH PLACE)
Daphin Way, $\frac{1}{4}$ Mile West of Mobile St.,
Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama.

Ownership:

Present Owner: Andrew & Mary A. Zimlich.
Previous Owners: Elizabeth Parrish.
Charles C. Hazard.
Branch Bank of the State of Alabama.
Anne E. Quigley.
Judge Amos R. Manning.
Forrester Dohond.
John W. Leonard.
S. Spence Semmes.
Olliver J. Semmes.
Mobile Industrial Home for Boys.
Charles Compton May.
Phineas & Demetrious Compton.
Andrew & Mary A. Zimlich.

Date of Erection: 1832 - 1833.

Architect: Unknown.

Builder: Charles C. Hazard.

Present Condition: Good.

Number of Stories: Two.

Materials of Construction: Two story frame; metal roof;
four two story columns to front porch, with wooden balus-
trade in between; interior walls are of plaster, covered
with wall paper.

Other Existing Records:

See: W. Brewers: "ALABAMA": Her history, "Resources and
Public Men". Published 1872.

Source of Material: Edward W. Russell, Mobile, Ala.

Compiled by: Katherine Floyd, Auburn, Ala.

Approved: E. Walter Burkhardt, District Officer, HABS

T.T.W. 8/4/37

Additional Data: Land upon which this stately old plantation home now stands, was purchased from the United States Land Office at St. Stephens, which place was at that time the capitol of the State of Alabama, by Elizabeth Parrish, March 9, 1832, the tract consisting of One hundred sixty and one half acres and the price being paid \$ 200.62. Original deed and patent, the latter issued by the land office at Washington - and bearing date May 30, 1833. has come down through successive ownerships to the present owners.

From Elizabeth Parrish it passed to Charles C. Hazard, April 7, 1832 and it was he who built this house in 1832 or 1833.

Subsequent Owners follow:

Branch bank of the State of Alabama. Mobile, 1841.

Anne E. Quigley. 1851.

Judge Amos R. Manning. 1853.

Forrester Bohond. 1863.

John W. Leonard. 1863.

S. Spence Semmes. 1865.

Olliver J Semmes. 1870.

Mobile Industrial Home for Orphan Boys, May 13, 1871.

Charles Compton May, 1876 from whom it passed upon his death a few months later, by legacy, to Phineas and Demetrious Compton, who sold the property to Andrew and Mary A. Zimlich, present owners 1904. Who have since occupied same.

To this home came Admiral Raphael Semmes, naval hero of the Confederacy, at the close of the Civil War, to live with his son S. Spence Semmes with whom he formed a partnership in the practice of law. Here it was in the front room on the east side of the house, second story, that Admiral Semmes was seized by a platoon of soldiers without judicial process but by order of the secretary of the Federal navy and taken to Washington, where he was confined in the Marine Barracks for four months and was then released by the Presidents Proclamation.

Oliver J. Semmes, who owned the property a short while, was also a son of Admiral Raphael Semmes, and for many years was judge of the old City Court of Mobile. During the Civil War he was Commander of a Louisiana unit of the Confederate States Army.